

January 25, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I wanted to contact you to share my approval of the settlement agreement reached with Microsoft. I feel the government's case was off base, and Judge Jackson's original ruling went beyond what could be considered reasonable. Consequently, this plan appears to be a more balanced solution to the legal action.

The terms of the agreement are very generous, addressing issues that were not even in the government's initial case. Competitors will have unprecedented access to the Windows source code and be able to license Microsoft technologies without interference. They will then be able to market their products without dealing with manufacturer restrictions on which software they can use on their installed operating systems. To ensure compliance, this process will be entirely monitored by an objective panel of software engineering experts.

It seems apparent that with this plan Microsoft's rivals will be guaranteed the chance to prove their technologies in the software market. Let us use this as a platform to move forward and allow a great company to continue its groundbreaking work in the PC industry. I appreciate your support.

Sincerely,

Christine Rompa